

[25 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Earnings from special Trains, Tourist Cars, etc.

3548. SHRI BACHANILEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Railway saloons, inspection carriages, special observation cars and tourist cars, as on 31st March, 2000;
- (b) the utility of the above;
- (c) the expenditure on carriages as a whole; and
- (d) the total earnings from special trains and reserved coaches, inclusive of tourist cars?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) There are 499 Railway Saloons which includes 376 Inspection Carriages, 11 Special Observation Cars and 112 Tourist Cars as on 31-03-2000.

(b) Inspection Carriages are used for movement of Railway Officers for inspection of stations, track and rolling stock during the run, running sheds, depots, yards etc. and also for stay at way-side stations during emergencies. Tourist Cars and other Saloons are available for public on payment of required tariff.

(c) The expenditure on complete Coaching Stock including Passenger Carrying Vehicle and Other Coaching Vehicles which also include Railway Saloons, Inspection Carriages, Special Observation Cars and Tourist Cars is as under:

(Rs. in Thousands)	
Year	Expenditure
1995-96 (Actual)	8245301
1996-97 (Actual)	9467777
1997-98 (Actual)	12264012
1998-99 (Actual)	13593748
1999-00 (Budget)	15113776
1999-00 (Revised)	15189149

(This does not include expenditure on establishment in offices as it is common between Carriage and Wagon and is relatively minor).

(d) The total earnings from special trains and reserved party coaches inclusive of tourist cars are as under:

(Rs. in Thousands)	
Year	Earnings
1995-96	414784
1996-97	350845
1997-98	356044
1998-99	572398

Note: These figures exclude the normal earnings from operation of passenger/commuter/Mail Express trains.

Payment of insurance charges to retiring N.R. employees

3549. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 5165, given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th May, 2000 and state:

(a) the names of persons who retired as Sub-Head from Traffic Accounts Office, Northern Railway in 1980, alongwith amount of insurance charges paid to them after retirement;

(b) whether complaints have been received from MPs, to the effect that due payment of insurance charges to some retired Sub-Heads of 1980, with interest, is still pending; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons for not making the due payment of insurance charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Manufacture of bus and truck bodies by the Railways

3550. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways is considering a proposal for induction of new technology to enable its production units manufacture bus and truck bodies;